

REPRESENTING BRANFORD, DURHAM, GUILFORD, KILLINGWORTH, MADISON & NORTH BRANFORD

YOUR STATE SENATOR **Ed Meyer**



Legislative Office Building, Room 3200, Hartford, CT 06106-1591

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HARTFORD CT
PERMIT NO. 3937

STAY IN TOUCH

Senator Ed Meyer

Legislative Office Building, Room 3200
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Capitol: 860-240-0455 or 1-800-842-1420

www.SenatorMeyer.cga.ct.gov



Visit me on the Web
to contact me, sign up
for my e-newsletter,
or to follow me on:



YouTube



Flickr



RSS



Investing in Small Businesses

Earlier this year I had the opportunity to tour Technical Manufacturing Corporation (TMC), a small, woman-owned manufacturer in Durham, with company Vice President Fred Bonito (above). TMC received assistance through Connecticut's Small Business Express Program that was created in the legislature's bipartisan Jobs Bill in 2011. The loan and grant that TMC received have allowed it to expand its manufacturing operation and hire four new employees. It is projected TMC will eventually create 20 new jobs as a direct result of the Small Business Express Program.



Protecting the Shoreline

One of my priorities during this year's legislative session was to secure passage of bills that will protect the Connecticut shoreline from the kind of weather-related damage that we have seen all too often in the past few years. I introduced and led passage of a bill to establish the Connecticut Center for Coasts. This organization, the first of its kind in Connecticut, will develop strategies to better prepare our shoreline for storms and rising sea levels. With a dedicated focus on collecting and analyzing data on the storms that have struck Connecticut, the Center aims to determine how to best protect our shores.

Supporting Our State Parks

I have worked hard to preserve and improve access to Hammonasset and other state parks. A 2011 study conducted at UConn shows the parks make an annual contribution of over 9,000 private-sector jobs and \$1 billion to the economy. According to this study, every \$1 spent on state parks returns \$38 to Connecticut's economy.



Joining in the ribbon cutting for the new Shoreline Greenway Trail at Hammonasset Beach State Park in Madison.

www.SenatorMeyer.cga.ct.gov

Update from **Ed Meyer**

Committed to Economic Recovery

At the beginning of the global economic recession, Connecticut economists predicted a very slow recovery. At the State Capitol, we took action. During the last three legislative sessions and the 2011 October Special Session on Jobs, we passed historic, bipartisan, job-creating bills.

We launched and then expanded programs to help thousands of small- and medium-size businesses. For example, the **STEP-Up** and **Small Business Express** programs which so far have assisted nearly 850 firms to create or preserve almost 12,000 jobs—offer job-training support for veterans and the unemployed and low-interest loans and state grants for small businesses.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, we have created more than 41,000 private-sector jobs since 2011. But our work is not done.

Resources to Grow Jobs

- **Job Expansion Tax Credits** for small businesses: www.decd.org
- **Small Business Express** to get funding for your small business: tinyurl.com/SmallBizXpress, or contact Michelle Peters at 860-270-8052 or Michelle.Peters@ct.gov.
- **STEP-Up** (Subsidized Training & Employment Programs) provides worker training subsidies for small businesses and small manufacturers: www.stepct.com
- **Connecticut Reemployment Portal** if you have recently lost a job and are looking for work: www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/CTReP
- **Job & Career ConnecTion** for details on job and training programs: www.ctjobandcareer.org

To learn more about job growth in Connecticut, visit:
www.senatedems.ct.gov/GrowJobs



Support for Local Businesses

Locally, many businesses in the communities I represent are utilizing important programs like STEP-Up and Small Business Express to preserve and create jobs.

Technical Manufacturing Corporation • Pennsylvania Globe Gaslight Co.
Aleia's Gluten Free Food • Shoreline Shellfish LLC • Madison Art Cinemas
Clarity Software Solutions • Aperture Optical Sciences
Affordable Ligthing of Branford • S.W. Swierad Builders
Royal Printing Service • and more



Children's Mental Health

Following the Newtown tragedy, Democrats and Republicans came together to improve Connecticut's mental health care system, with a particular focus on the well-being of children.

The new law implements a strong, comprehensive, integrated system of care. It identifies strategies for reducing the long-term negative impact of mental, emotional and behavioral health issues on children. It promotes early identification and intervention, and ensures access to developmentally appropriate services to help treat children earlier. It also creates a Children's Mental Health Task Force to study the effects of nutrition, genetics and medication on our youngsters.



Stamping Out Price Gouging



In light of recent severe hurricanes and historic snowstorms that have battered Connecticut, members of the public have been vulnerable to price gouging by shady service providers for snow removal, flood abatement, roof raking and lodging. That is why we expanded consumer protections by prohibiting price gouging for services that are essential for the health, safety and welfare of consumers in the aftermath of severe storms. This will be a deterrent to exploitative business owners and will protect consumers from predatory practices.

For more information about how to report price gougers, contact the **Department of Consumer Protection** at 860-713-6300 or visit www.ct.gov/dcp.